

Spring 1-15-2004

## ENG 4950-002: Literary History and Bibliography

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4950-002

**English 4950: Literary History & Bibliography**  
**Course Description & Policies**  
 Spring 2004  
 course web site: <http://www.eiu.edu/~literary/4950/>

Dr. Randy Beebe  
 3841 Coleman Hall  
 581-5013  
[rbeebe@eiu.edu](mailto:rbeebe@eiu.edu)

**Office Hours:**  
 Tues/Thur ~ 9:30-11  
 Wed ~ 10:30 - 12

**TEXTS:**

- Bronte, Jane. *Jane Eyre*.
- O'Brien, Tim. *The Things They Carried*.
- Abrams, et al. *Norton Anthology of English Literature*. 8th ed. Vols. 1-2.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

<b>Writing Projects</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Final Project</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Response Papers</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Participation</b>	<b>15%</b>

**COURSE GOALS:**

ENGLISH 4950 is an overview of the major developments in English and American literature—from its beginnings to the present century. More importantly, it is an opportunity to demonstrate—and continue to refine—the reading, writing, and research skills that you have developed through your course of study as an English major during the last few years. We will move at a fast pace through some challenging material, so be prepared to work hard and read voraciously. Much of our class time will center around discussion of the reading assignments and the many historical and theoretical problems contained therein. But this is not a lecture course. It's a course about the perils, complexities, and beauty of literary study. To do well in this course, you must keep up with the reading, turn in assignments on time, and participate actively in class and in all group assignments and activities.

**SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS:**

Unless otherwise indicated, all assignments are due on the date specified in the reading schedule. Papers turned in after the due date will be penalized one-third of a grade for each calendar day they are late—unless you have already made arrangements with me **prior** to the due date. I will not accept work that is more than one week late. Although I encourage you to turn in your work in class, you have until 4:00 p.m. on the due date to hand in your paper (either to me or in my mailbox, 3155 Coleman Hall). In other words, I want you to be in class that day whether or not you have your work fully completed.

**RESPONSE PAPERS:**

Throughout the semester, you will be writing several response papers, which are essentially informal, brief papers (from one paragraph to several paragraphs). I may give you, for instance, a specific question to answer as you work through the reading for the next class, or I may ask you to write a response in class (perhaps even in groups). We will use these responses as "discussion starters"—a way to focus our conversation. I will collect and evaluate most of these, but you should use these responses as ways to think about the issues we're discussing and as ways to prepare for class discussion. I will grade these on a 5-point scale and

greatly reward those responses that are genuine, honest, and creative.

**ATTENDANCE  
POLICY:**

You need to be in class all the time. I generally allow up to three absences, whether excused or unexcused. Each unexcused absence after that will lower your final grade one full grade (if your calculated final grade is a B, for instance, and you have four absences, you will receive a C for the course). Seven or more absences will result in a failing grade.

**PARTICIPATION:** This is not a lecture course. The success of the course depends on your active and continued involvement. Note that a full 15% of your final grade will be determined by how much you contribute. You can guarantee yourself a good participation score by being prepared for class and by asking questions

**REVISION:**

You may revise your papers. In fact, I encourage you to do so. However, you must speak with me before you turn in your revision—otherwise I won't accept it.

**PLAGIARISM:**

Since the university is a place of ideas, discussion, and reflection, it views plagiarism—the taking of others' ideas as one's own—very harshly. The penalty for plagiarizing is swift and severe. You will receive an immediate F for the course and notice will be given to the Office of Judicial Affairs and the Honors Program. If you have any questions about plagiarism—however small—please talk to me before you turn in your work.

**ELECTRONIC  
WRITING  
PORTFOLIO:**

This course is a **Writing-Intensive** course and you may use one of your writing assignments for your Electronic Writing Portfolio. I will be happy to help advise you on this process; however, I would like you to complete it by April 16th. Please see me if you have any questions.

**STUDENTS  
WITH  
DISABILITIES:**

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.